

**PATENT APPLICATION**

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re the Application of

Michio ASAHINA, Junichi TAKEUCHI, Naohiro  
MORIYA and Kazuki MATSUMOTO

Application No.: Rule 53(b) Continuation of  
Application No. 09/521,771

Filed: July 7, 2003

Docket No.: 101590.02

For: SEMICONDUCTOR DEVICE AND METHOD OF FABRICATING THE SAME

**PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT**

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

Please consider the following:

**Amendments to the Specification;** and

**Remarks.**

Please insert the following paragraph between the title and the first line of text as follows:

This is a Continuation of Application No. 09/521,771 filed March 9, 2000, which is a divisional of Application No. 09/161,920 filed September 29, 1998. The entire disclosure of the prior application is hereby incorporated by reference herein in its entirety.